GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3149
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2003
SRILANKAN PHONE RACKET
RENUKA CHOWDHURY

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Sri Lankan gang allegedly made millions of rupees by running illegal phone exchange in Chennai to facilitate their clients to make international calls at local call rates by breaking into satellite codes and by-passing the BSNL exchange as reported in the Lokmat Times, dated July 12, 2003;

(b) if so, the facts thereof and the loss caused to BSNL thereby:

(c) whether the Government have made any investigation in this regard; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof including the alleged modus operandi of the racket and the persons apprehended in this connection?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI A PRADHAN)

(a) As per FIR with Chennai city Police there was an illegal phone racket running in Chennai.

(b) Raid conducted by Chennai Police on receipt of telephonic information by them. Loss to BSNL not known as investigation is going on.

(c) No, awaiting the report from Police authorities.

(d) Three persons arrested. The case is still under investigation by Chennai City Police.